Press release

PRINTABLE VERSION

Don't let rain stop play this Easter

26 March 2002

We're used to floods, snow and even glorious sunshine over the Easter weekend - this year you can prepare yourself for whatever the weather has in store with a new service from the Met Office.

People who are planning days out over Easter can now access invaluable weather data via the web or their mobile phone to help them decide whether to brave the elements or stay indoors.

By logging on, those spending the Easter break in the British Isles can now go online and view animated radar images of the rainfall, just like you see on the TV forecast, for the last six hours. For people on the move, there is a localised text message forecast summarising weather conditions for the next six hours available on demand direct to their mobile phone.

The Met Office WTHR4 service for Vodafone UK and BT Cellnet users means they can receive a weather forecast for a specific location in the UK.

Users just type in WTHR4, then a space, followed by the UK city, town, postcode, or village name they're visiting, then send the message to Vodafone UK (on 8638) or BT Cellnet (on 2638).

Within a few minutes they'll receive a six-hour weather forecast summary, with hour-by-hour detail including rain, for the exact location requested; for example, for Windermere, the forecast might say: WINDERMERE 25/03/02: 10am - cloudy dry, 11am - showers, 12pm - rain, 1pm - downpour, 2pm - rain; 8 to 10 C; Breezy

The service costs no more than 36p* a message and is added to the monthly phone bill or debited direct from airtime vouchers.

For more information on any of these services go to www.metoffice.com or call the Customer Centre on 0870 900 5454.

Notes

*The service costs 25p on BT Cellnet and 36p per message on Vodafone. All prices quoted are inclusive of VAT.

For further information:
Met Office Press Office +44 (0)1392 886655

Met Office Customer Centre 0870 900 0100
If you're outside the UK +44 (0)1392 885680

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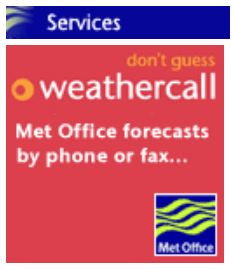

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